(a) whether Government propose to take cooperation of the Non-Governmental Organizations in the manufacturing of military equipments and ammunition for the army;

(b) if so, the names of the industrial houses/organizations being selected for this purpose; and

(c) the criteria therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Dot not arise.

**Employment opportunities in public and private sector units**

*468. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that employment opportunities in the public and private organized sector units have come down from 277.89 lakhs in 2001 to about 260 lakhs in 2004;

(b) whether it is also a fact that lakhs of people are affected due to globalization, liberalization and privatization;

(c) what are the details of the employees retrenched during the above period in public sector, year-wise; and

(d) how Government are planning to increase the number of employment opportunities, apart from Employment Guarantee Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO): (a) As per the Employment Market Information Programme of Directorate General of Employment & Training, Ministry of Labour & Employment, employment in public and private organized sectors has gone down from 277.89 lakh as on 31st March, 2001 to 264.43 lakh as on 31st March, 2004.

(b) Estimate of employment is obtained from the results of sample surveys carried out by National Sample Survey Organisation. The results of 1993-94 and 1999-2000 surveys show an increase of employment of the order of 2.25 crores during 1993-94 to 1999-2000. A rough estimate of

employment for subsequent period on the basis of thin sample surveys carried out by National Sample Survey Organisation and growth rate of the economy show that on an average around 70 lakh employment opportunities were created per year.

(c) According to the statistics maintained by the Labour Bureau of Ministry of Labour & Employment, the number of workers retrenched in the public sector during 2001, 2002, 2003 & 2004 were 1481,720, 424 and 853 respectively.

(d) Government have targeted creation of around 5 crore employment opportunities, 3 crore from normal growth process and 2 crore through special employment generation programmes during the 10th Plan period. Special emphasis has been laid on labour intensive sectors such as agriculture, irrigation, agro-forestry, small and medium enterprises, information communication technology, tourism, other services etc.

**Industries in Maharashtra**

*469. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the States doing well on the industrial/manufacturing front;

(b) whether it is a fact that the industrial sector in Maharashtra is on the decline;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and whether Government are devising any package for the benefit of Maharashtra where industries are suffering due to several problems; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) As per the CSO data for the year 2004-05, Jharkhand, Chandigarh, Maharashtra, Kerala, Karnataka, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Assam and Delhi were among the States/UT.s, which registered an industrial growth rate higher than the national average.

(b) Maharashtra registered industrial growth rates of 8.6 per cent in 2002-03, 11.6 per cent in 2003-04 and 9.8 per cent during 2004-05